

**PATENT**

1c971 U.S. PTO  
10/040115  
01/03/02

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of : January 3, 2002  
H. Asano et al. : Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Serial No.: Unassigned : Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: On Even Date Herewith : San Jose, California

Attorney Docket No.: ARC920010055US1

Title: MULTIPLE LEVEL (ML), INTEGRATED SECTOR FORMAT (ISF), ERROR  
CORRECTION CODE (ECC) ENCODING AND DECODING PROCESSES  
FOR DATA STORAGE OR COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND SYSTEMS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE  
MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 707.05(b) of the MPEP and 37 CFR 1.97-1.99, a copy is submitted (attached to forms PTO-1449) of prior art which is considered to be pertinent to the invention as claimed in the above-identified application.

It is requested that the Examiner fully consider the art cited, initial the leftmost column of the attached PTO Forms 1449 adjacent to each cited reference, and return a copy of the Forms 1449 for applicant's records. It is further requested that the art be cited on the cover of any patent issuing from the subject application.

The citation of the above references should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that other, more pertinent art is not available. Nor does this statement constitute an admission by applicant or applicant's attorney that the information provided is necessarily prior art to applicant's invention. Moreover, applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed documents should they be applied against the claimed invention.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application or before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Asano et al.

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Attachments